# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:558
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
DISEASED PRAWNS/LOBSTERS
P.C. THOMAS

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the prawns/lobsters in Western Coastal areas especially in Kerala are afflicted with certain disease;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the loss incurred to the State annually as a result thereof;

(d) whether any study has been made in this regard; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Yes, Sir. there had been reports that cultivated shrimp in certain Western Coastal areas including Kerala were afflicted by certain diseases.

(b): 12 farms in Gujarat, 6 ha in Maharashtra and 7500 ha spread over in 7 coastal districts of Kerala were reportedly affected by White Spot Viral Disease (WSD) during last crop.

(c): The loss sustained by Kerala during last crop is estimated around 3000 tonnes valued at Rs.45 crores.

(d): A high level Committee has been constituted by the Government of Kerala to study the problems and to suggest guidelines. The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Kochi has also instituted a study availing the technical assistance of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Thailand for evolving a strategy for control and prevention of shrimp diseases.

(e): As there is no definite cure for viral disease, the farmers have been advised to adopt scientific health management practices including precautionary measures such as PCR tests of broodstock and larvae.